

Department of Commerce IT Architecture Maturity Model¹

Level	Focus	Characteristics
0	No IT Architecture Program	No IT Architecture to speak of.
1	Initial - Informal IT Architecture Process Underway	Processes are ad hoc and informal. Some IT Architecture processes are defined. There is no unified architecture process across technologies and lines of business. Success depends on individual efforts. Quality of work is inconsistent. Little communication exists about the IT Architecture process and possible process improvements.
2	IT Architecture Process Is Under Development	Basic IT Architecture Process program is documented based on OMB Circular A - 130 and Department of Commerce IT Architecture Guidance. Responsibilities are assigned and work is underway. The architecture process has developed clear roles and responsibilities. There is a clear understanding of where the organization is at present time. IT Vision, Principles, Baseline, and Target are identified.
3	Defined IT Architecture Including Detailed Written Procedures and Technical Reference Model	The architecture is well defined and communicated. The process is largely followed. Gap Analysis, Migration Plan, Technical Reference Model, Standards Profile, and Migration Plan are completed. Cost-benefits are considered in identifying projects. IT goals and methods are identified. Training and awareness programs provided at regular intervals. IT Architecture is integrated with strategic planning and budgeting processes.
4	Managed and Measured IT Architecture Process	IT Architecture is used to guide development and acquisition. IT Architecture is updated on a regular cycle to refresh the architecture content and to adjust the strategic planning and budgeting processes based on the feedback received and lessons learned. IT Architecture projects are reviewed against architecture standards. Quality metrics associated with the architecture process are captured. These metrics include the cycle times necessary to generate IT Architecture revisions, technical environment stability, and time to implement a new or upgraded application or system. Organizational personnel understand the architecture and its uses.
5	Optimizing - Continuous Improvement of IT Architecture Process	Architecture metrics are used to drive continuous process improvements in IT Architecture. Process feeds Business Process Re-engineering and other characteristics.

¹Meta Group, "Enterprise Process Maturity Model and the SEI Model", Enterprise Architecture Strategies, File 16, July 28, 1998